

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 137

By Eldridge

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Elizabeth Morris on being named a Distinguished Finalist for the 2013 Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause in their deliberations to salute those young citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as emerging community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, Elizabeth Morris, an esteemed resident of Humboldt and an eighth-grader at Jackson Christian School, has been selected as a Distinguished Finalist for the 2013 Prudential Spirit of Community Award; and

WHEREAS, this prestigious award, presented by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, honors young volunteers across America who have demonstrated an extraordinary commitment to serving their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, the program's goals are to applaud young people who are already making a positive difference in their towns and neighborhoods, and to inspire others to think about how they might contribute to their communities; over the past seventeen years, more than 345,000 young Americans have participated in the program, and more than 100,000 of them have been officially recognized for their volunteer efforts; and

WHEREAS, a Distinguished Finalist in the program, Elizabeth Morris was chosen in response to her dedication to volunteer efforts such as the non-profit campaign she co-founded, *Blind But Now I See*, with which she collected more than 250 pairs of eyeglasses to donate to those in need around the world; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her work with *Blind But Now I See*, Elizabeth has been a very involved volunteer within her community and abroad, most notably by participating in a medical mission trip to Honduras where she volunteered in both a school and a clinic; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities, and the overall vitality of American society depend, in great measure, upon the dedication of young people like Ms. Morris who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate and honor Elizabeth Morris as a Distinguished Finalist in the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, recognizing her outstanding record of volunteer service, peer leadership, and community spirit, and extending to her our best wishes for her continued success and happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.